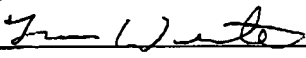


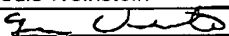
#17/E
PB
1/22/03 AF/W E

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐PTO/SB/21 (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/395,106	
	Filing Date	September 14, 1999	
	First Named Inventor	Westhoff et al.	
	Group Art Unit	3637	
	Examiner Name	Tran A, Phi Dieu N	
Total Number of Pages In This Submission	10	Attorney Docket Number	POL-PT010.1

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>Remarks</div> <div>OFFICIAL FACSIMILE</div> </div> <p>SENT VIA FACSIMILE TO 703-305-3597. PLEASE IMMEDIATELY DELIVER TO EXAMINER Phi Dieu Tran A, GROUP ART UNIT 3637.</p>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual name	Louis Weinstein Volpe and Koenig, P.C.	Reg. No. 20,477
Signature		
Date	January 8, 2003	

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent Via Facsimile (703-305-3597) addressed to:			
Examiner: Phi Dieu Tran A, Group Art Unit 3637, on this date:			January 8, 2003
Typed or printed name	Louis Weinstein		
Signature		Date	January 8, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

OFFICIAL

FAX RECEIVED

JAN 08 2003

GROUP 3600

PTO/SB/17 (01-03)

Approved for use through 01/31/2003. OMB 0851-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003 <small>Patent fees are subject to annual revision.</small>		Complete if Known	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27		Application Number 09/395,106	Filing Date September 14, 1999
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)-0-		First Named Inventor Westhoff et al.	Examiner Name Tran A, Phi Dieu N
Art Unit 3637		Attorney Docket No. POL-PT010.1	

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit card <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account: Deposit Account Number: 22-0493 Deposit Account Name: Volpe and Koenig, P.C. The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.		FEE CALCULATION (continued)																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
1. BASIC FILING FEE <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Large Entity</th> <th>Small Entity</th> <th>Fee Code</th> <th>Fee (\$)</th> <th>Fee Description</th> <th>Fee Paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1001</td> <td>750</td> <td>Utility filing fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1002</td> <td>330</td> <td>Design filing fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1003</td> <td>520</td> <td>Plant filing fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1004</td> <td>750</td> <td>Reissue filing fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1005</td> <td>160</td> <td>Provisional filing fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: right;">SUBTOTAL (1)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(\$)-0-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid			1001	750	Utility filing fee				1002	330	Design filing fee				1003	520	Plant filing fee				1004	750	Reissue filing fee				1005	160	Provisional filing fee		SUBTOTAL (1)					(\$)-0-	3. ADDITIONAL FEES <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Large Entity</th> <th>Small Entity</th> <th>Fee Code</th> <th>Fee (\$)</th> <th>Fee Description</th> <th>Fee Paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1051</td> <td>130</td> <td>2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1052</td> <td>50</td> <td>2052 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1053</td> <td>130</td> <td>1053 130 Non-English specification</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1812</td> <td>2,520</td> <td>1812 2,520 For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1804</td> <td>920*</td> <td>1804 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1805</td> <td>1,840*</td> <td>1805 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1251</td> <td>110</td> <td>2251 55 Extension for reply within first month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1252</td> <td>410</td> <td>2252 205 Extension for reply within second month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1253</td> <td>930</td> <td>2253 465 Extension for reply within third month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1254</td> <td>1,450</td> <td>2254 725 Extension for reply within fourth month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1255</td> <td>1,970</td> <td>2255 985 Extension for reply within fifth month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1401</td> <td>320</td> <td>2401 160 Notice of Appeal</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1402</td> <td>320</td> <td>2402 160 Filing a brief in support of an appeal</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1403</td> <td>280</td> <td>2403 140 Request for oral hearing</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1451</td> <td>1,510</td> <td>1451 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1452</td> <td>110</td> <td>2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1453</td> <td>1,300</td> <td>2453 650 Petition to revive - unintentional</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1501</td> <td>1,300</td> <td>2501 650 Utility issue fee (or reissue)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1502</td> <td>470</td> <td>2502 235 Design issue fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1503</td> <td>630</td> <td>2503 315 Plant issue fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1480</td> <td>130</td> <td>1480 130 Petitions to the Commissioner</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1807</td> <td>50</td> <td>1807 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(c)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1806</td> <td>180</td> <td>1806 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>8021</td> <td>40</td> <td>8021 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1809</td> <td>750</td> <td>2809 375 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(e))</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1810</td> <td>750</td> <td>2810 375 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1801</td> <td>750</td> <td>2801 375 Request for Continued Examination (RCE)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1802</td> <td>900</td> <td>1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: right;">SUBTOTAL (3)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(\$)-0-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid			1051	130	2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath				1052	50	2052 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet				1053	130	1053 130 Non-English specification				1812	2,520	1812 2,520 For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination				1804	920*	1804 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action				1805	1,840*	1805 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action				1251	110	2251 55 Extension for reply within first month				1252	410	2252 205 Extension for reply within second month				1253	930	2253 465 Extension for reply within third month				1254	1,450	2254 725 Extension for reply within fourth month				1255	1,970	2255 985 Extension for reply within fifth month				1401	320	2401 160 Notice of Appeal				1402	320	2402 160 Filing a brief in support of an appeal				1403	280	2403 140 Request for oral hearing				1451	1,510	1451 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding				1452	110	2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable				1453	1,300	2453 650 Petition to revive - unintentional				1501	1,300	2501 650 Utility issue fee (or reissue)				1502	470	2502 235 Design issue fee				1503	630	2503 315 Plant issue fee				1480	130	1480 130 Petitions to the Commissioner				1807	50	1807 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(c)				1806	180	1806 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt				8021	40	8021 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)				1809	750	2809 375 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(e))				1810	750	2810 375 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))				1801	750	2801 375 Request for Continued Examination (RCE)				1802	900	1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application		SUBTOTAL (3)					(\$)-0-
Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
		1001	750	Utility filing fee																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1002	330	Design filing fee																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1003	520	Plant filing fee																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1004	750	Reissue filing fee																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1005	160	Provisional filing fee																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
SUBTOTAL (1)					(\$)-0-																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
		1051	130	2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1052	50	2052 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1053	130	1053 130 Non-English specification																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1812	2,520	1812 2,520 For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1804	920*	1804 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1805	1,840*	1805 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1251	110	2251 55 Extension for reply within first month																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1252	410	2252 205 Extension for reply within second month																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1253	930	2253 465 Extension for reply within third month																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1254	1,450	2254 725 Extension for reply within fourth month																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1255	1,970	2255 985 Extension for reply within fifth month																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1401	320	2401 160 Notice of Appeal																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1402	320	2402 160 Filing a brief in support of an appeal																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1403	280	2403 140 Request for oral hearing																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1451	1,510	1451 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1452	110	2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1453	1,300	2453 650 Petition to revive - unintentional																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1501	1,300	2501 650 Utility issue fee (or reissue)																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1502	470	2502 235 Design issue fee																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1503	630	2503 315 Plant issue fee																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1480	130	1480 130 Petitions to the Commissioner																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1807	50	1807 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(c)																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1806	180	1806 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		8021	40	8021 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1809	750	2809 375 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(e))																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1810	750	2810 375 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1801	750	2801 375 Request for Continued Examination (RCE)																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1802	900	1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
SUBTOTAL (3)					(\$)-0-																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Large Entity</th> <th>Small Entity</th> <th>Fee Code</th> <th>Fee (\$)</th> <th>Fee Description</th> <th>Fee Paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1202</td> <td>18</td> <td>2202 9 Claims in excess of 20</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1201</td> <td>84</td> <td>2201 42 Independent claims in excess of 3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1203</td> <td>280</td> <td>2203 140 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1204</td> <td>84</td> <td>2204 42 Reissue independent claims over original patent</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1205</td> <td>18</td> <td>2205 9 Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: right;">SUBTOTAL (2)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(\$)-0-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid			1202	18	2202 9 Claims in excess of 20				1201	84	2201 42 Independent claims in excess of 3				1203	280	2203 140 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid				1204	84	2204 42 Reissue independent claims over original patent				1205	18	2205 9 Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent		SUBTOTAL (2)					(\$)-0-	Other fee (specify): _____ *Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid																																																																																																																																																																																					
Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
		1202	18	2202 9 Claims in excess of 20																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1201	84	2201 42 Independent claims in excess of 3																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1203	280	2203 140 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1204	84	2204 42 Reissue independent claims over original patent																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
		1205	18	2205 9 Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
SUBTOTAL (2)					(\$)-0-																																																																																																																																																																																																																												

SUBMITTED BY Name (Print/Type): Louis Weinstein		Registration No. (Amended): 20,477		Telephone: 215-568-6400	
Signature: <i>[Signature]</i>		Date: January 8, 2003		(Complete if applicable)	

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

FAX RECEIVED

JAN 08 2003

OFFICIAL

GROUP 3600

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the PATENT APPLICATION of:

Westhoff et al.

Application No.: 09/395,106

Confirmation No.: 5428

Filed: September 14, 1999

For: MANHOLE INSERT FOR
MANUFACTURE OF A CAST MEMBER AND
TO PROVIDE A STEP INSERT HAVING
INCREASED STRUCTURAL AND HOLDING
STRENGTH

Group: 3637

Examiner: Tran A, Phi Dieu N

Our File: POL-PT010.1

Date: January 8, 2003

REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

DO NOT
ENTER

Box AF

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

SA 4/3/03

Sir:

This Reply is responsive to the Final Office Action dated May 10, 2002 and to a telephone interview conducted with Examiner Tran A on January 3, 2003. Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend claims 21 and 41 as follows:

~~Handwritten signature and text, mostly illegible due to heavy scribbles.~~